

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An automotive interior component providing an airbag cushion capable of being filled by an inflation fluid to restrain an occupant inside a passenger cabin of a vehicle, comprising:

a substrate adapted to be mounted inside the passenger cabin; and

a covering on at least a portion of said substrate, said covering including an elastic outer layer of a polymer material and a core of said polymer material having a cellular structure positioned between said outer layer and said substrate, said cellular structure of said core configured to lose cohesion upon receipt of the inflation fluid for defining a space between said outer layer and said substrate, and said space filling with the inflation fluid to cause elastic expansion of said outer layer for defining the airbag cushion.

2. (Original) The automotive interior component of claim 1 wherein said substrate includes a material selected from the group consisting of a thermoplastic polymer and a thermoset polymer.

3. (Original) The automotive interior component of claim 1 wherein said polymer material forming said covering is selected from the group consisting of a thermoplastic elastomer compound and a polyolefin.

4. (Currently Amended) The automotive interior component of claim 1 further comprising:

an inner layer of said polymer material having [[said]] a substantially non-cellular structure positioned between said core and said substrate, said inner layer remaining attached to said substrate after inflation of said space to define the airbag.

5. (Original) The automotive interior component of claim 1 wherein said covering and said substrate define a unitary molded assembly.

6. (Original) The automotive interior component of claim 5 wherein said substrate is formed by a first shot of a two-shot molding process and said covering is formed by a second shot of the two-shot molding process.

7. (Original) The automotive interior component of claim 1 wherein said core includes an opening defining a pathway for inflation fluid supplied from an inflation fluid source.

8. (Currently Amended) The automotive interior component of claim 1 wherein said core is less dense than said outer ~~[[skin]]~~ layer.

9. (Original) The automotive interior component of claim 1 wherein said polymer material in said outer layer is non-cellular.

10-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) A method of restraining an occupant of a vehicle passenger cabin with an airbag deployed upon an occurrence of a measurable vehicle condition, comprising:

detecting the occurrence of the measurable vehicle condition;

discharging an inflation fluid into a core of a covering on a substrate located inside the vehicle passenger cabin in response to the measurable vehicle condition so that the core loses cohesion and defines a space between the substrate and an elastic outer skin of the covering; and

filling the space with the inflation fluid so that the outer skin elastically expands into the vehicle passenger cabin and defines the airbag cushion at a position that restrains the occupant.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein a portion of the outer skin is coupled with an inner skin of the covering that remains attached to the substrate when the airbag cushion is inflated.